



# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ENVIROFACTS

3/3/99

National Park Service  
Hazardous Waste Management &  
Pollution Prevention Team  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 565-1240 (x3)

## GREEN PROCUREMENT, WASTE PREVENTION, AND RECYCLING

### DEFINITION

**Green Procurement:** The affirmative procurement of environmentally preferred products and services. These products or services have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. Environmental preferability is a function of various factors. These include: (1) recyclability and recovered material content; (2) performance and durability; (3) toxicity and biodegradability; and (4) life cycle energy/natural resource use.

### APPLICABLE STANDARDS

**RCRA, Executive Order (EO) 12873, and EO 13101:** Green procurement is an ongoing requirement for Federal agencies. Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Section 6002 and EO 13101, Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition issued September 14 1998, Federal agencies including the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), must establish affirmative procurement programs for products with recovered content and other environmentally preferable products, and must "incorporate waste prevention and recycling in the agency's daily operations." EO 13101 supersedes and builds upon EO 12873 issued in October 1993.

**Other Green Procurement Mandates:** Other Federal laws and EOs mandate or promote the purchase of energy and water efficient products and products with low toxicity. These requirements are not addressed in this EnviroFact.

### RECOVERED MATERIAL CONTENT PURCHASING REQUIREMENT

RCRA Section 6002 and EO 13101 require that parks purchase U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated products with recycled material content if DOI buys more than \$10,000 of that item in a year.

EPA designated recovered content items are identified in the Comprehensive Procurement Guideline (CPG) (40 CFR 247). The CPG lists specific products in various product categories that must be affirmatively purchased. Recovered Materials Advisory Notices (RAMANs) issued by the EPA present the range of recovered material content levels with which the designated items are currently available. Currently 36 CPG items have

been designated. An additional 19 are proposed. (see list provided on back).

**Exceptions.** Exceptions from purchasing the EPA designated CPG items are allowed when one of the following can be justified: (1) the product is not available competitively within a reasonable time frame; (2) the product does not meet appropriate performance standards; or (3) the product is only available at an unreasonable price. Exceptions must be documented on an Affirmative Procurement Program Request Rationale Checklist provided as an attachment to NPS Contracting Officers Technical Instruction (COTI) 93-1.

### OTHER KEY ASPECTS OF EO 13101

**Facility Compliance.** EO 13101 specifies that EPA inspections of Federal facilities will include, where appropriate, evaluation of facility compliance with CPG purchase requirements and other associated RCRA and EO green procurement requirements.

**Departmental and NPS Planning and Goals.** EO 13101 requires that DOI, through an Agency Environmental Executive (AEE), establish goals for solid waste prevention and recycling or goals for solid waste diversion to be achieved by 2000, 2005, and 2010. The EO also requires that DOI incorporate additional materials into their recycling programs where appropriate, including pallets, toner cartridges, batteries, scrap metal, fluorescent lamps, and ballasts.

In addition, the EO requires that DOI: (1) establish goals for increasing purchases of recycled content products; (2) establish goals to increase the use of environmentally preferable products and services; and (3) encourage the affirmative procurement of bio-based products to be identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

**Reporting and Recordkeeping.** EO 13101 specifies that agencies must report on progress in meeting the above goals and requirements. Reporting of CPG item purchases was waived for DOI under the former EO 12873. It has not been established whether reporting of this data will be required of DOI under the new EO.

### EO 13101 IMPLICATIONS FOR PARKS

- Parks must affirmatively purchase CPG items or provide written justification when this does not occur. (Note that in addition to CPG items, parks are required to affirmatively purchase other products including energy and water

conserving equipment, and less toxic products pursuant to other EOs.)

- EPA Federal facility compliance audits may consider affirmative procurement.
- Parks may be called upon to establish green procurement objectives and tracking programs in the future as DOI and NPS goals and implementation plans are developed. These goals may link with the NPS Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWAP) and associated waste reduction/recycling goals.
- The intent of EO 13101, and a goal of the NPS as an environmental steward, is the implementation of waste reduction, recycling, and green procurement programs at parks regardless of specific DOI goals and reporting requirements. Parks should aggressively pursue green procurement opportunities including participation in EPA or other agency sponsored pilot studies to demonstrate environmentally preferable products.

### CONTRACTOR APPLICABILITY

Concessionaire and other contractors must comply with the green procurement requirements of EO 13101.

### FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS

Section 23.7 of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Contracting for Environmentally Preferable Energy-Efficient Products and Services mandates that specific contract language be used, and effective contracting programs be implemented, which favor green acquisition, including CPG items and other environmentally preferable products.

### WHERE DO PARKS GO FOR GREEN PRODUCTS?

Federal procurement services including the Government Services Administration (GSA) and Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) have environmentally preferable products available for purchase. Third party organizations such as Green Seal can also provide information on suitable products. A list of green procurement product and information sources are provided on the back of this EnviroFact.

### ENVIROFACT X-REFERENCES

- None at this point in time

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON GREEN PROCUREMENT

Source	Contact Information
<u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Pollution Prevention Information Clearing House.</u> Information on green procurement projects and pilot studies, general guidance, and suggested points of contact.	(202) 260-1023 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp">www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp</a>
<u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste.</u> EPA's web site for the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPGs). The site provides requirements for purchasing products with recycled content, product lists, and other green procurement information.	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure.htm">www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure.htm</a>
<u>Government Services Administration (GSA).</u> <i>Environmental Products Catalog</i> , GSA Advantage On-line Service, MUFFIN Electronic System, general purchasing guidance.	(800) 848-8923 <a href="http://www.gsa.gov">www.gsa.gov</a>
<u>Defense Supply Center (DSC).</u> On-line catalog with environmentally preferable product designations.	(800) 345-6333 <a href="http://www.dscr.dla.mil">www.dscr.dla.mil</a>
<u>Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP).</u> Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Clearinghouse; general energy efficiency guidance; selected technologies and equipment.	(800) DOE-EREL <a href="http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp">www.eren.doe.gov/femp</a>
<u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star/Green Lights Program.</u> Energy efficiency guidance for office equipment, lighting, and buildings; product certification program.	(888) 782-7932 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/energystar">www.epa.gov/energystar</a>
<u>Green Seal.</u> Non-profit green product certification and research organization; listings of certified products; fact sheets; guidance on green procurement programs.	(202) 588-8400 <a href="http://www.greenseal.org">www.greenseal.org</a>
<u>NPS Green Alert Bulletin Board.</u> Electronic bulletin board posting information on pollution prevention and green procurement opportunities and environmental compliance.	CC Mail Address - #BB Inbox: Nat'l Green Alert
<u>NPS, Contract and Procurement Office, Washington, DC.</u> Guidance on NPS service-wide green procurement requirements and initiatives.	(202) 565-1144 (Jacqueline Bishop) (202) 565-1150 (Cynthia Adonno)
<u>NPS, Hazardous Waste and Pollution Prevention Team, Washington, DC.</u> Guidance on green procurement policy, opportunities, and other NPS and DOI points of contact.	(202) 565-1240, Ext. 3
<u>NPS Solid Waste Management Handbook.</u> Handbook outlining procedures for parks to implement the NPS Integrated Solid Waste Management Program (ISWAP). The handbook identifies NPS ISWAP goals for waste generation reduction, composting and recycling, and provides information on affirmative procurement in the NPS.	(202) 565-1240, Ext. 3
<u>NPS Experts in the Field.</u> Ask around, there are a number of NPS experts at parks and support offices who have field experience in finding and using green products and services.	Start with your Regional Environmental Coordinator.

# GREEN PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EPA CPG Required Items <sup>(1)</sup>	Other Green Procurement Opportunities
<b>Construction Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Floor tiles containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Shower and restroom dividers/partitions containing recovered plastic or steel</li> <li>Structural fiberboard containing recovered material</li> <li>Laminated paper board containing post-consumer recovered paper</li> <li>Patio blocks containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Carpet containing polyester carpet fiber face and PET resin</li> <li>Cement and concrete containing coal fly ash</li> <li>Cement and concrete containing ground granulated blast furnace slag</li> <li>Geotextiles containing recovered materials</li> <li>Fiberglass building insulation with recovered content</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low VOC and less toxic paints</li> <li>Water efficient plumbing supplies</li> <li>Recovered stone, brick, steel, wood, floor tile, other materials and fixtures from building deconstruction</li> <li>Road building materials with recovered road base, asphalt and other materials</li> <li>Non-fiberglass building insulation with recovered material content such as newspaper or plastic</li> <li>Acoustic ceiling tile with recovered mineral wool, plastic, steel mill slag or other materials</li> <li>Plastic lumber with recovered content</li> <li>Bricks with recovered fly ash</li> <li>Energy efficient windows and doors</li> <li>Docks and piers with recovered plastic or wood content</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parking stops made from concrete or containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Chanelizers, delineators, and flexible delineators containing recovered plastic, rubber, or steel</li> <li>Traffic barricades containing recovered plastic, steel or fiberglass</li> <li>Traffic cones containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speed bumps made of recovered road material or recovered plastic</li> <li>Signs containing recovered metal or plastic</li> </ul>
<b>Park and Recreation Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playground surfaces containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Running track containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Plastic snow and sand fencing containing recovered plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park benches and picnic tables with recovered plastic, rubber, sawdust, and wood</li> <li>Playground equipment and bike racks with recovered plastic, rubber, sawdust and wood</li> <li>Signs and signposts of recovered wood or plastic with recovered content</li> <li>Boats with recovered material content</li> <li>Four cycle rather than 2 cycle motors for boats</li> </ul>
<b>Landscaping Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garden and soaker hose containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Lawn and garden edging containing recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Hydraulic mulch containing recovered wood and/or paper</li> <li>Yard trimmings containing composted material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hose reels made of recovered plastic</li> <li>Wheel burrows, gardening and landscaping tools made of recovered wood, plastic and other materials</li> <li>Hand , electric or four cycle gasoline lawn and gardening equipment</li> <li>On-site composting products</li> </ul>
<b>Paper Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing and printing paper with recovered paper content</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other paper and tissue products (paper towels, napkins, bath and facial tissue with recovered paper content or are unbleached and do not have unnecessary dyes, inks or fragrances)</li> <li>Cardboard with recovered paper content</li> <li>Reusable envelopes and bags</li> </ul>
<b>Non-paper Office Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remanufactured printer ribbons</li> <li>Plastic envelopes with recovered plastic</li> <li>Office recycling containers containing recovered plastic, steel or paper</li> <li>Office waste receptacles containing recovered plastic, steel or paper</li> <li>Plastic desktop accessories containing recovered plastic</li> <li>Remanufactured toner cartridges</li> <li>Binders containing recovered plastic, chipboard, paperboard, or pressboard</li> <li>Plastic bags containing recovered material</li> <li>Energy Star computer equipment<sup>(2)</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efficient, duplex capable, properly sized copy machine</li> <li>Energy Star plain paper fax machines</li> <li>Fax modems instead of paper fax machines</li> <li>Pens and pencils with recovered plastic and wood content</li> <li>Erasable and cork boards with recovered plastic and wood</li> </ul>
<b>Vehicular Products</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reclaimed engine coolant</li> <li>Retread tires</li> <li>Re-refined lubricating oil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engine hoses with recovered plastic or rubber</li> <li>Rebuilt and reused engines, engine components and other vehicle parts</li> <li>Alternative fuel vehicles</li> </ul>
<b>Miscellaneous Products/Maintenance Supplies</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pallets containing recovered wood, plastic or paperboard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling Bins and trash bins with recovered plastic</li> <li>Bubble wrap and other packing materials with recovered plastic content</li> <li>Compact fluorescent lighting</li> <li>Less toxic, more biodegradable janitorial and equipment cleaners</li> <li>CFC recycling equipment</li> <li>CFC/HCFC free air conditioning and refrigeration equipment</li> <li>Non-halon fire suppression systems</li> <li>Reusable rags and rags with recovered material content</li> </ul>

(1) Products with recovered material content which must be purchase by Federal Agencies pursuant to RCRA Section 6002 and EO 13101. EPA published Recovered Materials Advisory Notices provide information on the range of recovered material content levels available on the market which will meet the intent of RCRA Section 6002.

(2) Energy Star products must be affirmatively procured pursuant to EO 12856.